

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge

Young Waterfowler's Program

Welcome to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service established the refuge in 1958 primarily for migratory birds. Public hunting is a priority public use and can provide a quality recreational experience when pursued responsibly. We allow hunting of geese, ducks and coots in accordance with State laws and the following refuge specific regulations.

We host a **Young Waterfowler's Program** for junior hunters between 12-17 years of age which includes a youth only hunt on the first Sunday of the regular waterfowl season.

Participants must pre-register by completing a **Waterfowl Lottery Application** form which can be obtained in person or by mail from the refuge office or from our website at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/iroquois/hunting>. On the form, complete items 1, 2, 3, and 6a. For item 6 write, type or select "Youth Hunt" from the drop down menu. At item 7, sign on the Hunter Signature line. In order to take part in the program, participants need their parent or guardian to sign on the Guardian Signature line (7a). Please leave all other items blank. The application must be received by the deadline which will be announced in a news release and on the refuge website. We will not accept faxed or electronic application forms.

The program is free but space is limited to 25 with preference given to first time participants; therefore pre-registration does not guarantee participation.

If selected, participants must attend an orientation program held in September or October. The orientation covers:

1) waterfowl identification (optional for

those who already have a Waterfowl Education Certificate of Qualification)

2) hunting regulations, safety, equipment, a retriever demonstration and a trap shoot. Attendance is mandatory except for those who have been through the program at least twice.

Before the day of the hunt, participants will be paired up with non-hunting guides who will coach as well as help call in birds if needed. A parent/guardian may arrange with the instructors to serve as a non-hunting guide on the hunt otherwise one will be assigned by the instructors. Guides must have a valid NY State hunting license, valid duck stamp and a Waterfowl Education Certificate of Qualification.

We will assign stands through a random drawing on the day of the hunt at the Waterfowl Permit Station at 5 am. The permit fees are waived for this program.

We allow waterfowl hunting from designated stand markers in Cayuga, Mohawk and Oneida Pools, and Sutton's Marsh. All other areas are closed.

Hunt times are ½ hour before legal sunrise until noon. Check out by returning your **Migratory Bird Hunt Report** form to the Waterfowl Permit Station no later than 1:00 pm.

You may possess no more than 20 approved nontoxic shot shells in the field.

Each hunter must provide and use minimum of six decoys. Decoys reduce the chance of crippled birds.

You must stay within 100 feet (30 m) of your designated stand marker unless you are dispatching a crippled bird.

Do not remove or alter vegetation around your hunt stand marker. No permanent structures are allowed.

Consult the Waterfowl Hunting fact sheet for information on additional waterfowl hunting opportunities.

Hunters with Disabilities

One hunt stand is available for hunters with permanent physical challenges. Individuals with disabilities and any other person who may need special assistance to participate in this program should contact the refuge so that reasonable accommodations can be made.



Vehicles

Vehicles are only allowed on established roads marked open for vehicular travel. Vehicles must be parked off the lane of travel and clear of gate. ATV's and snowmobiles are not allowed.

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge
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Iroquois@fws.gov

New York Relay Center
1 800/662 1220 TDD
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>

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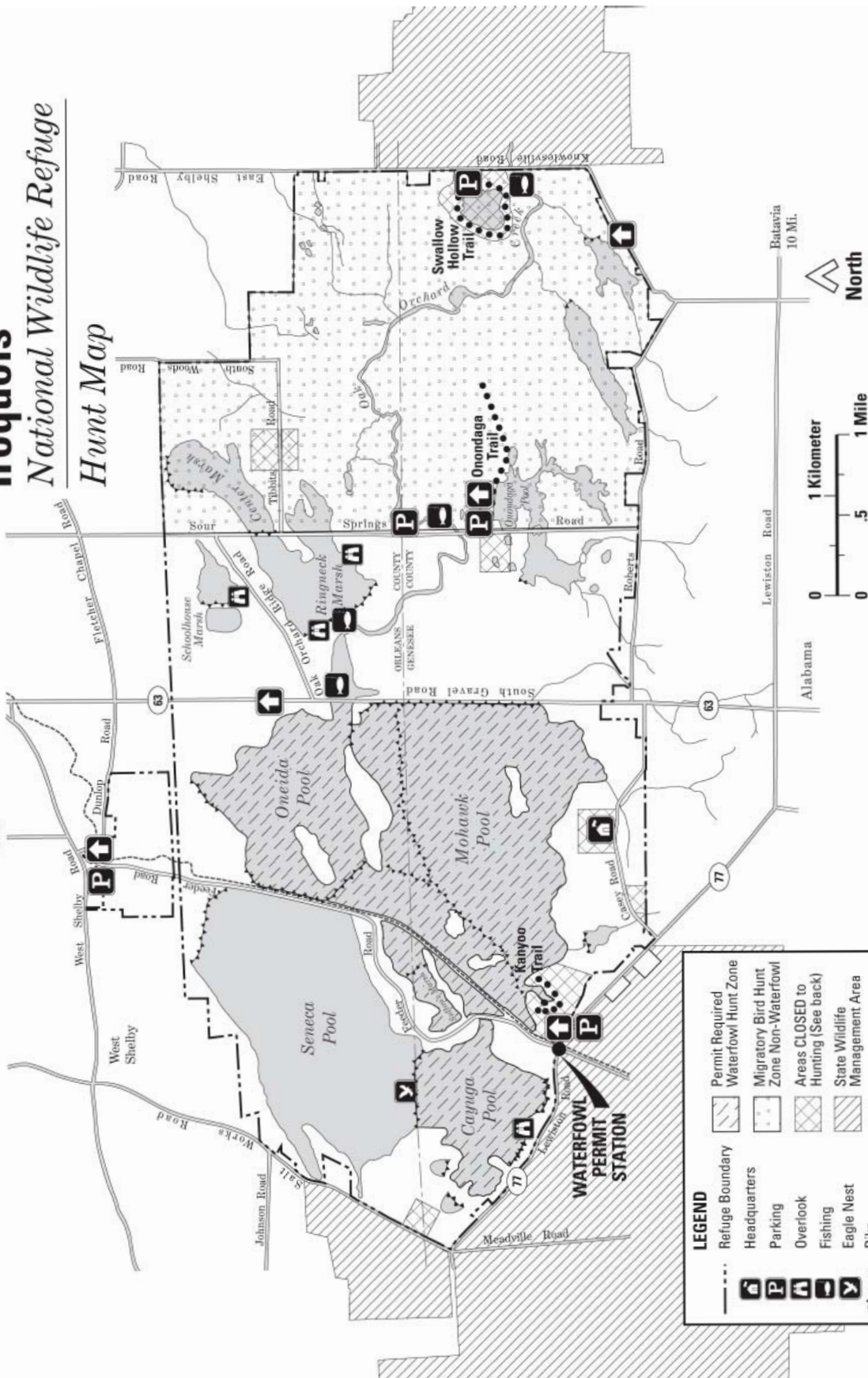


Iroquois

National Wildlife Refuge

Hunt Map

Medina
2 ML.



Batavia
10 ML.